

This church on Martin Luther King drive proved to be a good place to park a boat Sunday



Flood waters didn't reach the downstairs windows of First Baptist Church



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Building supply stores re-open

Both Kenneth Grantham and Jackie Windham, owners of Grantham's True Value Hardware and Windham Lumber Company respectively, are open for business.

They will have building supplies available for those needing to begin repairing their homes and businesses.

Dorsey Trailers to re-open soon

One of Elba's largest businesses, Dorsey Trailers, is already working to reopen just as soon as possible.

According to Paul Morrow, a spokesperson for Dorsey, the damage to the Elba facility was not as great as in the March '90 flood.



The Elba Clipper office, Monday afternoon

Elba Clipper in temporary office on Claxton

Like most other downtown businesses, The Elba Clipper had several feet of water in it Sunday and Monday.

Very little was recovered from office building before the waters rose, but using borrowed computers, and a new operating system and printer delivered by Graphicom, the office has been set up in the old Army Reserve building on Claxton Avenue.

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March 24 - 26

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LBW students seated left to right: Stacey Solomon, Opp; Kevin Allen, Zion Chapel; standing left to right: Alan Crenshaw, Opp; Darren Mooney, Andalusia; Juanita Cobb, Andalusia.

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INSIDE
Williamson family to perform

INSIDE
Tillis joins Kansas City Royals

INSIDE
Broken levee repaired

The Elba Clipper

Volume 101, Number 40

50 cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 19, 1998

1 Section, 18 Pages

No word on rumored buy-out plan

by Michele Cox Gerlach

While the state and national media have devoted much air time and space to the possibility of relocating Elba, local officials haven't received any concrete information about the process, Mayor James Grimes said Tuesday.

But federal and state Emergency Management Agency (EMA) officials say information about a potential buy-out will be included in a

long-term plan being prepared for Elba.

Scott Adecock, public information officer for the Alabama EMA said the options are being put on the table.

"FEMA and EMA are not at all telling the City of Elba you have to move," Adecock said. "The decision will be made at the local level."

"Another option to be considered is 'what can be done to strengthen

See BUY-OUT, Page 18

Bodies found, local authorities to question son

by Marvin McIlwain, editor

The bodies of two people missing since Saturday were found late Monday near Pages Creek just south of Elba on AL Hwy. 189.

The bodies of Russell William Cuts, Sr., 41, and wife Leighanne Manning Cuts, 35, were found late Monday afternoon in the creek located just north of the Perry's Store Community in southwest Coffee County.

Authorities had been investigating the suspicious nature of the couple's disappearance since Saturday, March 14, 1998.

Mr. Cuts, an employee of L&M Tire Co., and his wife, a dispatcher with the Enterprise Police Department, were last seen late

Friday evening shortly after 8 p.m. A massive ground and air search was conducted Saturday and Sunday with no success.

The couple's son (Mrs. Cuts' stepson), Russell William Cuts, Jr., 18, was missing, along with his father's pickup truck.

The younger Cuts was arrested Sunday evening in Sugarland, Texas, along with a companion, Jeremy Guthrie, 18, of Daleville, Ala. They are both being held on theft charges since the vehicle belonged to Mr. Cuts.

A crew from the Alabama Department of Transportation was inspecting the bridge for flood damage when they discovered a body.

See BODIES, Page 18

Friends, family mourn victims

by Michele Cox Gerlach

About 300 mourners packed the sanctuary of Harris Temple Church of God in Christ Saturday afternoon for the funeral held for the two victims of Elba's 1998 flood.

Standing in the aisles, seated in folding chairs set up in the sanctuary, and crowded in the foyer of the church, the people who gathered to mourn Edward Newiser Horstead, 17, and his niece, Margindale Kiemonne Thigpen, 4, fanned slowly with hand-held cardboard fans and dabbed at their eyes with tissues.

They were comforted by such songs as "Soon and very soon, I am going to see the King," and "His Eye is On The Sparrow."

And they were assured by Elder W. K. Ellison, who officiated, that



Pall bearers carry the tiny casket in which 4-year-old Margindale Kiemonne Thigpen was buried last Saturday. Thigpen and her uncle, Edward Horstead, drowned when the vehicle in which they were riding was swept off the road by flood waters

See FUNERAL, Page 18



The Elba Recreation Center located on Claxton Avenue has been transformed into a disaster relief center, with state and federal Emergency Management Agency offices, as well as volunteer organization, set up in the gymnasium. The building also is temporarily housing City Hall and The Elba Clipper

First disaster relief checks distributed in Coffee County

by Michele Cox Gerlach

Flood victims who received the first disaster relief checks issued by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Assistance Program said they felt tremendous relief in knowing help was on the way.

The first of \$257,000 in disaster loan checks already issued in Coffee County by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Disaster Assistance Program were delivered to Elba Monday morning.

"This helped," said Mary Jo Nolin. "We were pulling our hair out, not knowing what would happen next."

"We need positive things," Mrs. Nolin said. "It was a blessing to have somebody say, 'We can help you and we will do that.' That

As of Tuesday morning, FEMA had received 705 requests for assistance from Coffee County residents.

In the first four days of operations in the old Armory National Guard building on Claxton Avenue, employees of the disaster relief services interviewed 330 applicants.

Tuesday, 168 disaster relief checks totalling \$257,000 had been issued.

gives you hope."

Mrs. Nolin and her husband live on County Road 365 off Taylor Mill Road. She believes she and her neighbors were almost washed away because the dam of a catfish pond broke.

"I woke up about 2 a.m.," she said. "I know God woke me up."

She turned on the television and immediately began to see flood warnings. She woke her husband, who went outside to evaluate the couple's situation, and told his wife they should evacuate.

"I started to get up some clothes so that we could get out," she said. "Within 10 minutes the water was at our door steps."

Flood waters were only two inches away from the carpet of the Nolins' mobile home. But erosion caused by flooding has literally washed away the earth on which the mobile home stands.

"The dirt washed away from under the blocks," Mrs. Nolin said. "And our home is showing signs of pulling apart."

Ashley and Daisy Sutley also received one of the first SBA

See CHECKS, Page 18

School schedules altered, AEA holidays still on go

by Michele Cox Gerlach

For students in Elba City Schools, there is good news and bad news.

The good news is that students will be out for spring holidays, also known as A.E.A. holidays, March 30 through April 3.

The bad news is that students will have to make up four of the five days they were out of school last week because of flooding.

The school calendar already included one day more than was required by

state law.

To make up the four days, students will go to school on Good Friday, April 10. School also will be extended three days at the end of the year, with the last day of school for faculty and staff set on Friday, May 22.

Graduation for Elba High School seniors will remain on Tuesday, May 19th.

The current grading period has been extended for one week and will end on Friday, April 10th.

See SCHOOLS, Page 18

News Briefs

National Security production still on

The Elba High School auditorium will be the setting for a special evening of musical entertainment on Friday, March 20, when Stage Centre Company of Tuscaloosa will present "I Do! I Do!," a two-character play which tells the story of a couple as they move from newlyweds in 1898 to an old married couple in 1948. A musical version of the play, "The Fourposter," by Jan

Monday City Council meeting moved

The Elba City Council will meet Monday evening at 6 p.m. in the Elba City School Superintendent's office. If there is an overflow crowd, Mayor James Grimes said the meeting will be moved to the high school cafeteria.

The Water & Electric Board will meet immediately after the council meeting.

Businesses re-open

by Marvin McIlwain, editor

The following is a list of Elba businesses that have already re-opened and are doing business. If the business has been temporarily relocated, the new address follows.

They are:

- Grantham's True Value Hardware
- Big/Little Store No. 13
- Windham Lumber Company
- Southern Country Realty (located across from Movie Gallery)
- Cook Chevrolet (Jim Cook Ford)
- The Peoples Bank (next to Jim Cook Ford)
- SouthTrust Bank (temp. facilities at same location as before flood)
- Dairy Queen
- Bradley's Florist (located in old Garden Gate Florist building)
- Runt's Elba Auto Sav Texaco Station
- Clements' Furniture Co.
- Hair Studio (located across from Movie Gallery in house with Southern Country Realty)
- Dollar General
- Cannon & Vaughan
- Gerald Boswell Insurance
- Lawford's Ace Hardware
- Jared & Jared (next to Windham Lumber Co.)
- Elba Florist & Gift Shop
- Marsh Insurance (at home- 957 Troy Highway)
- Hardee's
- EDSO Fasteners Inc.
- Skinner's Furniture
- Coffee County EMS
- Alfa Insurance (Hickman Ave. @ intersection of 203 Bypass)
- Elba Frame & Gift
- CarQuest/Taylor Parts
- Clark Furniture Co.
- Padgett Oil Co.
- Whitman Drug Co. (across from hospital)
- Kelly's Barbecue

See BUSINESS, Page 18

OPINION

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

This is week two of the Elba flood of 1998 and we are still around and thankfully standing up to the challenge ... the normal (and wonderful) challenge of life ... the challenge of overcoming the flood and the challenge of publishing another edition of your newspaper under very adverse conditions. We have been under tremendous stress, trying to continue what was already a job with long hours under normal conditions, plus necessarily having hands-on involvement with the salvage and clean-up of our flooded Buford Street buildings. But, many, many of our readers are doing the same thing, and so many, many of the others have pitched in to help friends, neighbors or even those they don't know and will probably never see again. Isn't it great to be a part of such a great society!

The number of volunteers we have encountered all around town during the last week is amazing. There are folks with personal and/or connections, people with religious or business connections and then there are those who are here solely because they heard of the problems and had the time and desire to help. If you see one of these volunteers, stop and thank him or her for coming to Elba. Sure, their satisfaction is from knowing they helped someone in need, but they are human and it doesn't hurt anyone to hear personal praise, when it is truly justified, as in this case.

Now, to the individual or individuals who needed one of our computers more than he thought we did ... please keep it. It is apparent you and your family can't (or are not willing to) work long hours to pay for such modern equipment and since my family did and is capable of doing so again, don't feel real guilty over taking ours while we were at the other end of the building continuing our clean up. However, there was some information on the hard drive which we really need, so if you will please send that back to us, our forgiveness will be total. If you don't know how to operate the specialized software installed on that machine, we might suggest you just return the whole thing. Unfortunately for you, without a couple of the components of the system which you didn't pick up, it is highly probable the machine will crash on you every time you try to use it.

There are still a lot of questions around town about the idea of a buy-out by the federal government ... that great pot-of-gold at the end of the rainbow. The response we are getting from many of the business people is that they favor staying put. Many residential folks are quietly expressing the same thoughts privately to us. There are some who strongly favor the buy-out. We wish them luck but disagree with comments that everyone who takes it is happy and well compensated for their property. But we could argue that all day ... it is opinion. As we said at the public meeting last Thursday night, "Our decision is made, the new equipment purchased and the carpenters are on standby to make our repairs as soon as the building downtown dries out."

It would be foolish not to examine all the options carefully and completely, but to do as one man suggested Monday morning, "sign up now even if we don't know anything about the program," is not a good idea anytime and should be strongly opposed. If we don't know Elba shouldn't be hard to protect with a levee, after all we are not battling something like the mighty Mississippi River. What we suggest, and think will turn out to be the best for all concerned when the cards are on the table (and the feds finally furnish something in writing about the buy-out program) is to aggressively pursue the complete reengineering and rebuilding of the levee, using today's technology and at the same time offering a buy-out program for those Elba residents who live in low, flood prone areas that a levee can never protect.

Then, having read about some of the horrors of buy-outs, we stress the need to be sure of how many homes, at what value, are to be involved before the feds set up X amount of money to be divided among those who accept the proposal. If we fall short on this, either someone is left out of the project, or everyone gets less than the proper buyout.

This is not a time for us to be divided on the future of Elba. It sends the wrong message to those in a position to generate the big money help Elba needs and makes great headlines in the newspaper and on the tube. We need to vent our frustrations in private ... yours truly is a good sponge for such ... and move forward deliberately for the common good of the entire community. We intend to hand in there and hope to look around and see you pulling along side us.

Many must work together to repair levee

Surreal. That's the only way to describe it. A Stephen King movie, or maybe Hitchcock. Riding a boat through the downtown streets of an abandoned town is an experience which shakes you to the core.

Bert McCreary had responded to the call for help to anyone with a boat handy. If you know Bert, he always has a boat handy. Mark Fuller and I didn't know what to expect as we pulled up to the west entrance of the Elba Courthouse to try to salvage what was left of Jim Ellis's records. The doors to the circuit clerk's office, as you would expect on a late Sunday morning, were locked. We decided not to break in and cause further damage.

Bert gently backed his little stickster fishing rig off the portico, missing the tip of a handicapped parking sign by inches. We counted the courses of brick exposed under the hand rail attachment: six. Thirty minutes later, only five could be seen, and the skies were threatening again. Hmmm, rising six inches per hour, we would have to make the call after we had everyone assembled as to proceed or not.

Bruce Jones was already en route with his pontoon boat he uses to fertilize fish ponds. Within about an

Garrett Moore
State Representative



hour, the network of volunteers working with the EMA and the county commission had arranged to begin emptying the probate office of the records not yet saturated and storing them in an 18-wheeler trailer. Thanks go to Ray Pierson for arranging the trailer so quickly. I don't think I'll ever forget the feeling of walking into the courthouse for the first time. It was eerily quiet. The occasional putter of a rescue squad boat with the only break in the silence. The water was about thigh deep and cool. If there were any snakes, they wouldn't be moving very fast.

There were seven or eight of us, led by Bill Gammill, who began moving Coffee County's history to drier surroundings. The bad news was that the National Weather Service predicted a river crest of 48 to 49 feet, a devastating level that would be higher than the flood of 1990. We could only hope they were

wrong. After a couple of hours, using both boats, we were able to move all the dry records and pull those submerged out to drain. Heavy work for some out-of-shape men on what is supposed to be a day of rest.

I wouldn't want to go through that again. I know the folks in Elba are resilient, but this would test any community. So now the question becomes, "Why can't we fix the levee so that it holds?" The short answer is that we can. The solution may be complex, but now is the time to put it together.

The federal government has offered a buy-out program that may be just the thing needed to relocate some families to higher ground. Some of these structures are outside the protection of the levee. Some will need to be moved due to their proximity to the levee. There is hardly room to work around the base in some areas. The idea of a federal buy-out to relocate the entire city, along with its infrastructure, is more of a sound bite for CNN than a plausible solution. First of all, where would you put it? Wouldn't it be cheaper just to fix the levee properly?

I have proposed, and Gov. Fob James has committed his support

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following persons admitted during the time period of March 10, 1998, through March 16, 1998. They were: Doris Waters, Flora Mae Smith, Julia Jones, Jeffery Ramer, Alice Henderson, Willie Flowers, Edd Marshall, R. C. Boutwell, Murphy Cox, Sabrina Slenker, Agnes Dixon, Wanda Beck, Henry Chestnut, Martha Waters, Magaline Stephens, Irene Lampley, Hannah Coleman, Gerald Shelton, Johnnie Savidge, Lorene Vann, Mallie Hudson, James Caylor, Rudolph Wyrosdick, Corey Parker, Herman Carter, Amber Goodwin, and Katie Johnson.

Persons discharged during the same period were: Cola Carley, Annie Daniels, Cecil Parker, Lomax Burks, Terry Caldwell, Lester Duncan, Betty Burks, Martavious Gray, Zedie Bouyer, Lillian Rowe, Jeffery Ramer, Alice Henderson, Agnes Dixon, Willie C. Flowers, Edd Marshall, Murphy Cox, Doris Waters, Aerial Calloway, R. C. Boutwell, Martha Waters, Magaline Stephens, Irene Lampley, and Flora Mae Smith.

ELBA POLICE REPORT

MARCH 9 THRU MARCH 16, 1998

Due to the adverse conditions under which the Elba Police Department has been operating during the past few days, a complete daily report of activity, including incidents and arrests, is not available. Hopefully, regular reporting will begin in next week's issue of The Elba Clipper.

MILITARY NEWS

Hughes graduates from basic training

Army Pvt. Anthony S. Hughes has graduated from basic military training at Ft. Benning, Columbus, Ga.

During the training, students received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

Hughes is the son of Alvin H. Hughes of Rt. 1, Chancellor, and Kathy R. Sellers of Daleville.

His wife, Brooke, is the daughter of Mark Tindal of New Brockton, and Meleody Lashley of Eufaula.

Cape stationed in Norfolk

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Andre A. Cape, son of Mary Terry of 638 North Main St., Brundidge,

Al recently arrived at his new home in Norfolk, Va., after a six-month tour around the world deployment aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz. The carrier departed its old home port of Bremerton, Wash., on September 1, to deploy to the Western Pacific Ocean and Arabian Gulf.

During the deployment, Cape's ship participated in Operation Southern Watch in the Arabian Gulf, enforcing U.N. sanctions levied against Iraq after the Gulf War in 1991.

The 1993 graduate of Pike County High School of Brundidge, Ala., joined the Navy in August 1985.

BULLETIN BOARD

• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** Courtroom: 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213.
• **ROTARY CLUB.** Tuesday @ Noon. First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
• **ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN.** Tues. 7-8 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL.** 2nd & 4th Monday 6 p.m. City Hall.
• **WATER & ELECTRIC.** Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. - City Hall.
• **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION.** 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton.
• **LIONS CLUB.** 2nd & 4th Tues. 6-6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center.
• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD.** 1st Thur. 5:30 p.m. - Sup. Office.
• **AMERICAN LEGION.** 1st Thur. 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall - Troy Hwy.
• **RESCUE SQUAD.** 2nd & 4th Tues. - 7 p.m. Rescue Sq. Bld.
• **MASONIC LODGE 170.** 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month 7-9 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School.
• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER.** Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 noon. 600 Farm Center Complex 894-5858.
• **COFFEE COUNTY COGN. HUNTERS ASSN.** 3rd Sat. 3 p.m. Club House.
• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN.** 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise.
• **AIRPORT AUTHORITY.** 1st Tuesday at noon. City Hall Conference Room.
• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month.
• **CIVIL AIR PATROL.** Every Monday 7 p.m. - Elba Airport - Driscoll hangar.

This space made possible by: National Security Insurance Co.

Alabama's Agent of the Month



GARY ALLEN

Alfa Insurance is proud to announce that Gary Allen of the 617 W. Davis Service Center in Elba has met the highest qualifications in service to our policyholders and has been named Agent of the Month for January in Alabama.

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AREA DEATHS

JAMES "Bud" FARRIS

James "Bud" Farris, age 79, of Kingston, died Friday, March 13, 1998, at Mizell Memorial Hospital in Opp, AL.

Funeral services were held Sunday, March 15, 1998, at 2 p.m. from Alberton Baptist Church with the Rev. Milford Johnson and the Rev. Gary Winstead officiating. Burial was in the Alberton Cemetery with Rainer Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include five sons: Charles Farris, Howard Farris, Hoyt Farris, Tony Farris, all of Kingston, AL; James Farris, New Brockton, AL; and one sister, Cumi Barham of Opp, AL; 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

RUFUS MONEY

Rufus Money, age 50, of Elba, died Friday, March 13, 1998, at his home.

Funeral services were held Sunday, March 15, 1998, at 2 p.m. from the chapel of Hayes Funeral Home with the Rev. Elbert Smith officiating. Burial was in the Mt. Zion Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife, Pansy Money; his son, Jamey Lee Money; his daughter, Sandy Johnson; his grandson, Christopher Jarret Johnson; his mother, Effie Gladys Smart; two sisters, Joyce Johnson and Jo Ann Weeks; and his brother, Vordie Ray Money, all of Elba.

CHARLES WESLEY MADDOX, JR.

Mr. Charlie Wesley Maddox Jr., 86, of Macon, Ga., died Feb. 20, 1998 in a Macon, Ga., nursing home.

Graveside services were held at Macon Memorial Park on March 2, 1998, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. John C. Miller officiating, and Hart's Mortuary of Macon, Ga., directing.

Mr. Maddox was pre-deceased by his wife, Louise Wood Maddox. Survivors include two sons: Charles Edward Maddox, Macon, Ga., and Dale F. Maddox, Elba; six grandchildren, Becky Elizabeth Maddox, Macon; Katherine M. Faulk, Echo; Benjamin David Maddox, Robert Martin Maddox, Charles Kesley Maddox and Sarah Elizabeth Maddox, all of Elba; one great-grandchild, Susannah Paige Faulk, Echo; a brother, J.C. Long, Sulphur, La.; one sister, Susan Virginia Ward of Marietta, Ga.

EDWARD NEWISER HORSTEAD

Services for Edward Newiser Horstead, 17, of Elba, were held Saturday, March 14, 1998, in the Harris Temple Church of God in Christ with Elder W.K. Ellison officiating.

Horstead was born Dec. 12, 1980, in Opp, Ala., to Willie C. Tyson and Lillian Marie Horstead. He attended Elba Public Schools. He died Sunday, March 8, 1998.

He is survived by his parents; three brothers, Willie B. White of New York, Ernest Lee Bodford of Luverne, and Willie Paul Tyson of Elba; three sisters, Teresa Callaway of Opp, Lela Ann Wilson of Elba and Tonya Ruth James of Elba; a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Burial was in Bethlehem Church Cemetery, Coleman Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

MARQUINDALE KIEMONNE THIGPEN

Services for Marquindale Kiemonne Thigpen, 4, of Elba, were held Saturday, March 14, 1998, in the Harris Temple Church of God in Christ with Elder W.K. Ellison officiating.

Marquindale was born on Oct. 6, 1993, to Kevin Thigpen and Tanya Ruth Tyson.

She is survived by her parents; a brother, Shannon Corey James II of Elba; her maternal grandfather, Henry Rowe; her grandparents, Henry Rowe, Alice Clara Thigpen, Willie C. Tyson and Lillian Marie Horstead; six aunts, seven uncles and 20 cousins.

Burial was in Bethlehem Church Cemetery, Coleman Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

JERRY SHELTON

Mr. Jerry Shelton, age 90, of Elba, died March 17, 1998, at Elba General Hospital.

Funeral services are being held today (Thursday, March 19, 1998) at 11 a.m. at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Mart Gray officiating. Burial will follow in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba. Survivors include his wife: Bettye Lea Shelton, Elba; three daughters: Sandra Wall, Rodeo, Calif.; Dianne Sater, Lewiston, Idaho; and Tina Tyrell, Carson City, Nev.; a sister: Pearl Fifer, Camden, Mo.; six grandchildren.

DOUGLAS A. MANN

Mr. Douglas A. Mann, age 71, of

Revival begins Monday at Harris Temple Church

Harris Temple Church of God in Christ will have an "old-fashioned Holy Ghost" revival March 23-26. Services will begin at 7 o'clock each night. Guest speaker will be Evangelist Josephine Watson from Birmingham. Everyone is invited.

Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home for details 897-2225

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is now back in business to serve our friends in Elba

TRUCKLOAD OF BEDDING arrived last Saturday

with more furniture and appliances arriving last Monday

We hope you will shop with your good friends in Elba. We've all had losses, but we were here in '90 and we are here to serve you now!

Skinner's Furniture

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Let us handle your post-flood needs

Cook Chevrolet is currently operating at Chevrolet with new cars and trucks arriving daily. Clim Cook Ford and is ready to fulfill all daily. of your sales and service needs.

We are going to auctions daily to replenish our used car and truck inventory and have received a special allocation from ability to serve is as strong as ever!

COOK CHEVROLET & JIM COOK FORD

897-2297

897-3130

VICA Spotlight



Laura Crowe

This week's VICA Spotlight focuses on Laura Crowe. She is an employee at Lawford's Ace Hardware/Radio Shack where she works as a cashier. Laura is the daughter of Dale and Nancy Crowe and is a junior at Elba High School. She is a member of FBLA, VICA, Girl Scout Troop #300, the varsity cheerleading squad, and SGA where she serves as secretary.

Her hobbies include cheering, working out, and shopping. After high school Laura plans to attend Auburn University where she will major in Graphic Arts and/or Computer Programming.

Spring tests scheduled in schools

The Elba City Schools will begin spring testing in the near future, which will continue throughout the remaining months of the school term.

Test schedules are as follows:
April 8 - 9 - EES, and
April 14 - 17 - Grades 3 - 6:
Stanford Achievement Test: 9th Ed.
April 14 - 17 - EHS, Grades 7 - 11:
Stanford Achievement Test: 9th Ed.

May 5 - EES, Grade 5: Alabama Direct Assessment of Writing
May 7 - EHS, Grade 7: Alabama Direct Assessment of Writing
May 5, 6, 7 - EHS: Geometry End-of-Course Test

Tiger Tales

ANNA HEAD
EditorELIZABETH STRONG
Assistant Editor

Art Contest Winner



The Elba Elementary School first grade participated in an art contest, sponsored by Haywood Drugs. All first grade students were given a picture of Pegasus, the unicorn from the movie Hercules. The drawings were judged by Haywood's and the winner was Jason Mitchell of Mrs. Lynn Wilson's first grade class. Jason is the son of John and Pam Mitchell. His picture was posted on the cash register in the store. Other participants' drawings were posted around the room also. Jason was presented with a prize of toy figurines of all the characters in the movie. Congratulations Jason!!!!

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OUR WAREHOUSES ARE FULL -
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Quality Built

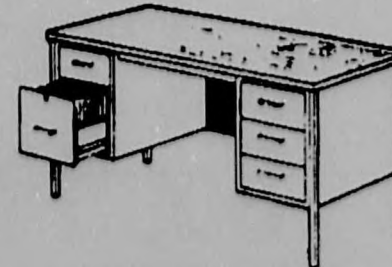
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of Desks & Chairs



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Teacher appreciation

In honor of National Vocational Education Week, February 8 through 14, VICA sponsored a Teacher Appreciation Snack for all the high school faculty and administration. Teachers were served Subway sandwiches and soft drinks by VICA officers during recess on Wednesday, February 11.

This is an annual event to show teachers how they are appreciated. Everyone enjoyed the good food and fellowship.

"Pennies For Presidents"

"Pennies for Presidents" is a fund-raiser sponsored by the Elba Elementary School Council to help with various school projects. Children bring pennies to school for two weeks in conjunction with President's Day.

This year the elementary school surpassed their goal of \$1,000 by collecting \$1,026.48 in pennies. An ice cream party was given to the following classes for collecting the most pennies: Kindergarten, Mrs. A. Vaughan, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, Mrs. Calhoun, 4th, 5th, and 6th, Mrs. Donaldson.

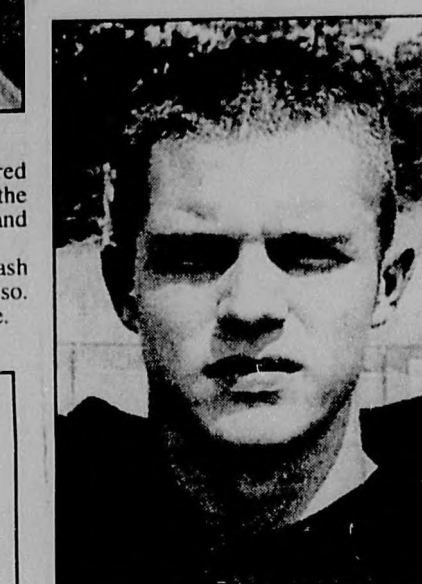
Black History Month

by Jason Sasser

On February 20, 1998, an assembly was held in recognition of Black History Month in the auditorium at Elba High School. The chorus sang three wonderful songs for entertainment and then the guest speaker, Dr. Stafford Thompson, was introduced. He spoke on the past history achievements of black leaders in the state of Alabama. He is the president of ESJC and was a wonderful speaker.

by Tawanna Rodgers

The Elba Elementary School first grade participated in an art contest, sponsored by Haywood Drugs. All first grade students were given a picture of Pegasus, the unicorn from the movie Hercules. The drawings were judged by Haywood's and the winner was Jason Mitchell of Mrs. Lynn Wilson's first grade class. Jason is the son of John and Pam Mitchell. His picture was posted on the cash register in the store. Other participants' drawings were posted around the room also. Jason was presented with a prize of toy figurines of all the characters in the movie. Congratulations Jason!!!!



Derek Marler

Homerun Derby

by Brandee Farris

Derek Marler traveled to Dothan's Northeast Field on February 7, to participate in the all day baseball event, the Homerun Derby. Among the forty participants, Derek placed 7th in home runs hitting 15 home runs. He placed in the top 8 overall. Derek was nominated by his coach and teacher at Elba High School, Mr. David Lowery, for being the top player with more home runs on the team than any other player.

Congratulations Derek. We hope that the Elba Tigers have a successful baseball season!!!!



SCHOOL BREAKFAST: Seth Hammett, president of Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College, and Mike Carnley, counselor, Elba High School, at the appreciation breakfast for area superintendents, assistant superintendents, high school principals, and counselors at LBW on Friday, Feb. 20.

Small ads do work...
You're reading this one

THE ELBA CLIPPER • THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1998



National FHA Week

The Elba High School FHA celebrated National FHA Week the week of February 9-14. The club officers, members, and instructor participated in numerous activities. They included collecting donations for the House of Ruth (a women's shelter for domestic violence), publicizing traffic safety, taking Valentines to the nursing home and several other activities.

In addition to these activities, the first proclamation declaring February 9-14 as FHA Week was signed by Mayor James Grimes. Coca-Cola also donated a sign to hang across the street to remind the community that EHS was celebrating FHA Week.

Counselor's Corner

by Anna Head

"William Carey College is holding a 'Preview Day '98' on Saturday, March 21. Students will be given the opportunity to meet with faculty and administration, consult with department representatives, enjoy a complimentary lunch, receive scholarship and financial aid information, enjoy student entertainment, food and prizes, meet representatives of student organizations, tour the campus and dorms, and enjoy a Crusaders baseball game.

Please call 1-800-962-5991 Ext. 103 or 582-6103 to make your reservations. See Mr. Carnley for more details.

"Huntingdon College is offering the Huntington Summer Scholars program to give juniors in high school an opportunity to earn up to six free tuition credits and to become comfortable in college atmosphere. Students must have a grade point average of 3.0 or above and an ACT composite of 20 with a 20 in English to participate. Students must also be recommended by a teacher or guidance counselor. The application deadline is May 1, 1998. Call 1-800-763-0313 or (334) 833-4497 for more information. See Mr. Carnley for details.

"Juniors and Sophomores are invited to attend Huntington's Junior Day, Saturday, April 25, 1998. Call 833-4515 for information.

"The first Alabama Governor's School for Arts and Technology is being offered June 14-27, 1998. Participating students will be involved in an intensive study of five arts and technology areas, fun-filled activities, and top-quality student-produced showcases and performances. It is being held in Montgomery at Booker T. Washington Magnet High School.

All ninth through eleventh grade students in public and private schools are eligible to apply. See Mr. Carnley for an application.

"Students interested in the Forestry Technology Program at Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College should send a current transcript, a scholarship application (if interested), and an LBW admission application to George Showalter by April 1, 1998.

For further information, call Mr. Showalter at 222-6591, ext. 2275, or Robert Carter at ext. 2274. See Mr. Carnley for the applications.

"On March 13-14, 1998 the Capstone Student Business League will host its seventh annual Student Business Conference on the Campus of the University of AL. See Mr. Carnley for details.

"In April, the Family and Child Educational Services will sponsor the 'Blue Ribbon Campaign' which recognizes the need for community awareness for the prevention of Child Abuse. This year's theme is 'Kids Handle With Care'.

Students can help out with this campaign by tracing, coloring, or painting their handprints onto banners that will be displayed at the Piney Woods Arts Festival. See Mr. Carnley for more details.

"Any seniors with asthma who have achieved both excellence in competitive sports and a superior high school academic record are eligible for 'Will to Win' scholarships. See Mr. Carnley for details.

"To find out more, call 393-ESJC, Ext. 266.

"**FREE classes in English for those who do not speak, read, or write the language at the beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels are offered at Enterprise State Junior College on Tuesdays 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

These classes are offered through ESJC and the Southeast Alabama Adult Education Network at Elba Elementary School on Wednesdays 3 - 5 p.m.

**FREE adult education, family literacy, and preparation for the GED Test classes are offered by ESJC and the Southeast Alabama Adult Education Network at Elba Elementary School on Wednesdays 3 - 5 p.m.

Enrollment is open at any time and at any session. Call 393-ESJC, Ext. 218 or 897-6285 to find out more about these special FREE classes.

**STUDYING for the GED Test? Take advantage of Enterprise State Junior College's Adult Learning Center, located in the Student Center.

Computer-assisted instruction as well as additional study time with one-on-one help are available. The center is open Mondays - Thursdays, 6 - 8:30 p.m. There is NO CHARGE for using the center. To find out more, call 393-ESJC, Ext. 218.

FREE adult education classes are offered in basic reading, writing, math, and for preparation for the GED Test, sponsored by Enterprise State Junior College and the Southeast Alabama Adult Education Network.

At ESJC - four separate sessions:
Mondays and Wednesdays 6 - 9 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays 6 - 9 p.m.

THE ELBA CLIPPER • THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1998

Round and about with Eria Belcher

897-2006

***Scripture: Ruth 1:22

***Thinking of you, praying for you: Clifford Blue, Donald Waters, Cassie B. Reese, the Scott, White, Tyson, Horstead, and Thigpen families; Vick E. Lindsey, Glen Kelley, Eva Rayborn, Mozelle McCornick, Mary B. Belcher, Lovie Hooks, Pearlle Tillis, Marie Tillis, Estella Williams, Hannah Coleman, Willie C. Tyson.

***Annual Choir Night will be celebrated at the New Philadelphia COGIC April 11, at 7 p.m. Pastor L.E. Flowers. Theme: Psalms 8:1. "Come and praise the Lord with us." Choir president, Dea. J. Jackson, phone 334/897-2161.

***1998 Basketball Tournament, "March Gladness," will be held Saturday, March 21, sponsored by New Philadelphia Church of God in Christ. For information contact Dea. J. Jackson, 334/897-2161; or Dea. T. Whitfield, 334/897-2179.

***Recent visitors: Army Sgt. Charles Smith, Veronica and children of Ft. Bragg, N.C., visited his mother, Annie Doris Austin, and his grandmother, Minnie L. Thigpen, both of Elba, and David Velverson and Regina in Biloxi, Miss. . . . Warren Belcher, Dora and children of Montgomery were overnight guests of Grover and Eria Belcher this past weekend. . . . Jackie Belcher and Evelyn Carlies of Groveland, Fla., visited Wallace and Mattie Belcher, J.L. and Estella Williams, Grover and Eria Belcher, all of Elba recently.

***The Mulberry Baptist Missionary District Ministers, Deacons and Laymen's Union will convene at Rocky Head M.B. Church, Elba, on March 29, at 9:30 a.m. Rev. A.R. Williams is pastor. Rev. J.M. Bryant, president; Sis. Belinda Ordon.

***Laymen/Brotherhood Revival and Program to be held at Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church, Elba, Rev. A.R. Williams, pastor. Rev. L.P. Carter is First Administrative Assistant; Rev. R.C. Caldwell, Second A.A., and Rev. W.O. Edwards, Third A.A. Times of services are: March 23-27, Revival 7 o'clock nightly; March 28 - Musical at 6 p.m.; March 29 - Luncheon - 5:30 p.m. Theme: "It's

A Man's Thing." Topic: "Men in the Local Church."

***Cameron Rashad Tillis: Boyhood Dream Comes True . . . At the age of 20, Rashad was still a happy young man. He was selected by the Kansas City Royals in the 24th round of the Major League draft on June 12, 1997. Therefore, Rashad became the highest drafted player ever from Opp, and how did he get to where he is now? Hard work, innovation and focusing and acting on his dreams. With God's help, family and friends "rooting" for him, he achieved his goal.

Tillis is a former Opp High School standout in baseball and basketball. He is also a graduate of Opp High School. He is the son of Ricky and Evelyn Tillis of Opp, and has a sister, Nicole, and a brother, Dewayne. He is a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church of Elba, Rev. Darryl Caldwell, pastor, and was a member of the choir. The church has been an important part of his life, and he recently gave a large gift to it - not for show, not for publicity, but for the love of God and family. He was 25 years old on Feb. 25, is 6'2" and weighs 195 pounds; that should tell us something. He could be called "Speedy," with his times at bat, a .313 batting average and a number of stolen bases while playing the outfield.

Tillis had college offers from Troy State and West Alabama, but decided to go pro baseball. He was scheduled to report to Orlando, Fla., for spring training on March 8. After spring training he will be assigned to a team.

Tillis is truly an achiever. So, we all say, "You are someone special - you can make a difference; fill your position with dignity, and God bless."

***Family and Friends Day: Bethlehem Baptist Church, Elba, Rev. Darryl Caldwell, pastor, will be held March 22, at 3 p.m. - guest minister - Rev. Chester Hayes, Columbus, Ga.

***Today is a good day - be grateful! ERIA



Cameron Rashad Tillis

Parks, pastor of Mt. Calvary and Oak Grove Baptist Churches, Elba, and Good Hope Baptist Church, Luverne; recognition of visitors - Sis. Belinda Ordon.

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***Today is a good day - be grateful! ERIA

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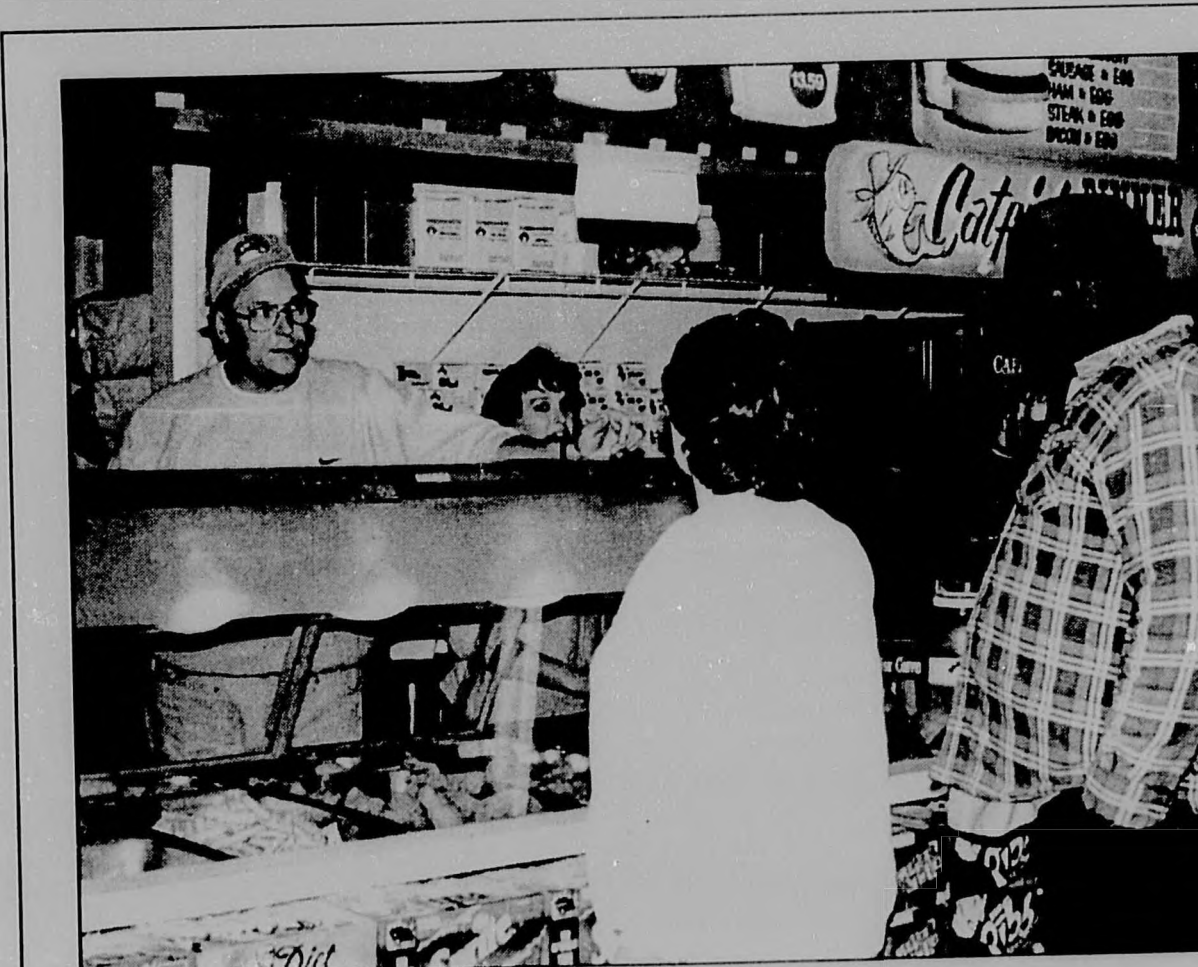
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hot biscuits beginning at 6 a.m.

STAY FOR LUNCH OR SUPPER!

Enjoy fried chicken, hot dogs, burgers,
fries, and plate lunches

We've re-open downtown, and we've also extended our store
hours until midnight until further notice to assist victims
of the 1998 flood

Big Little Store

Hwy. 84 West • Downtown Elba



BOOT SALE Floyd Walker sat on a bench outside his shoe shop in downtown Elba, Thursday morning with a row of boots drying in the sun. Propped against the store front was a muddy sign that read, "BOOT SALE." "I've had a few takers," he said of the merchandise. "But mostly they're out here to dry. It's a beautiful day and they've been in a lot of water."

Walker, who's also a minister, said he wasn't too troubled by the flood that ravaged downtown Elba last week. "Trouble makes you call on God," Walker said. "I count it as a blessing." "We are in the midst of a deadly enemy... the devil," he said. "And God is a jealous God. He wants you to call on Him to overcome the enemy."

County roads suffer major damages

Coffee County Engineer Randy Tindell reported the county's road system suffered major damage during the flood of '98. Tindell stated that on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being the worse condition and using the flood of '90 as a base, the county's damage rate falls between 7 and 8.

The following roads in the county system are still closed to traffic: Co. Rds. No. 228, 352, 365, 404, 417, 420, 456, 471, 613, and 672.

Tindell said that his department had received invaluable help from the State of Alabama Department of Transportation and the Army National Guard.

The DOT provided manpower and equipment while the Guard provided trained equipment operators to assist and relieve the county's operators.

Tindell asked that the citizens of the county be patient as the priority of his department will be to get the road system back into a safe condition. Repair of driveways will be low on the priority list.

Anyone having knowledge of any road damage that has not been marked or repaired should notify the county highway depart at 894-6112.

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to the citizens of the Elba area

who suffered damages during the 1998 flood

We'll help you restock your pantry!

Fryer breast
Family pk., 1 lb.
97¢

Granulated, Price Wise
Sugar
4 lb. bag, Limit 1 w/ \$10 or more order
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Medium: Limit 4 doz.
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Piggly Wiggly American Singles
16 oz. pkg.
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Rib-eye STEAKS
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5 lb. bag
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Low salt Bryan Bacon
12 oz. pkg.
\$1.37

Red Rock Drinks
12-pack, 12 oz. cans
\$1.89

Prices good March 18 thru March 24, 1998

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SOAPY JOB Volunteers assist Ella Daniels, second from left, in washing merchandise which took a muddy bath when Daniels' BP, like other downtown businesses, was flooded on March 8th.

Agencies assist Elba police, looting not big problem

by Marvin Melliwin, editor

Elba Police Chief R. W. "Ronnie" Whitworth stated that his department received a lot of assistance during the initial crisis and afterwards.

Alabama's Water Patrol and Game & Fish personnel were very essential in patrolling and providing security for the downtown section of Elba while it was still filled with flood waters.

The Alabama State Troopers sent units into Elba from all over the state. Also, the State Revenue Department - Enforcement Division - sent personnel to assist law enforcement.

The Enterprise and Troy police departments sent officers to assist with traffic control and security patrol of flooded residential and business sections of the city.

The Alabama National Guard sent military police units from through-

out the state. The MP's assisted with traffic control and security patrol providing back-up and relief for other law enforcement personnel.

The Coffee County Sheriff's Department, assisted by other law enforcement personnel, maintained a command center on the east side of Pea River.

Security during the time flood waters had that section of town cut off from the rest of Elba was provided by this outpost.

Chief Whitworth expressed his appreciation to all those agencies that provided his department with assistance and to those who offered to do so.

"There have been some reports of looting in downtown and residential areas; however, no arrests have been made at this time," said Chief Whitworth.

"Anyone caught looting will be dealt with severely," he said. Law enforcement officers have

been instructed to stop and question anyone removing items from business and residential properties. No one is to even remove items that have been trashed. It is a health hazard to do so.

The chief also urges anyone not having business in the downtown to stay clear. It hinders those business owners trying to clean up and reopen their businesses. The same is true for residential sections of town affected by flood waters.

The Elba Clipper

is temporarily located in the old National Guard Armory on Claxton Avenue

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- No Down payment
- Discount Interest Rates

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AND FOR NON-FLOOD VICTIMS
1998 16X80 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath

Includes:

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- 2) 20" Side by Side Refrigerator
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- 5) Glamour Bath
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\$215 Per Month

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Call on us if we can help

We express our heart-felt sympathies to our neighbors in Elba who are forced once more to deal with damages caused by flooding.

If we can assist you by filling your prescriptions as our friends at Whitman Drug Store and Haywood Drugs work to re-open their doors, please call on us!

Peacock Drug

New Brockton • 894-6100

Trying to get back

on your feet?

WE CAN HELP!!!!

See us for building supplies
and repair materials

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We're open at the following locations:

- Drive-in downtown
- Full service on Hickman Ave. (Highway 84 West) beside Jim Cook Ford
- Full service in New Brockton

We appreciate our many customers and ask you to be patient with us as we all work through this disaster and our repairs to the downtown offices.

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Getting motel residents out was scary for motel owners

by Ferrin Cox, publisher

V. J. Patel and his wife, Idka Patel, own and operate the Riviera Motel in downtown Elba. Following the flood of last week, Mr. Patel told a harrowing story of the trauma which unfolded with getting his family, his sleeping guests and himself out of the flood area.

Patel explained that he operates a good motel and has good clients in Elba.

"I love Elba people, the police department, senior citizens and all my clients. Sunday at 8 or 9 a.m., when the fire department rang the whistle, I knew I had better get our customers out. There was not enough time," he said.

He told his family to get in their 1989 Lincoln and go to the Enterprise Motel, operated by my friend.

"I was concerned about my guests' safety. If I die, I don't care - their safety came first," he said.

Mr. Patel told of using his master key to enter the rooms of sleeping guests. But many people were still sleeping and had the chain safety lock on the door and didn't understand what was happening. He said one woman from Panama City had

water in her room before before he got her out, another had no personal automobile. There were 18 rooms occupied at the Riviera Motel on Sunday morning, March 8th, when the Beaver Dam Creek flooded downtown Elba.

Mr. Patel remembers the National Guard helping him and one client out over the Pea River bridge. Someone on a pick-up truck took him to the Enterprise Motel. They helped him and he doesn't know who to thank.

Now his question is, "If we rebuild, who will take the liability for my guests if the levee breaks. Will it be city, state federal or who? If they completely rebuild the levee, how long will it take?"

Again he asked, "My clients are sleeping, who is responsible?"

Expressing a strong affection for his adopted home, Mr. Patel said, "I don't want to leave this town. My wife and I love this town. There is no other motel. We are pleased to furnish a service to the elderly who come to visit for funerals, reunions, etc."

Mr. Patel, like so many more local citizens, is frustrated and wants some answers from someone to help him plan his future actions.



V.J. and Idka Patel

Courthouse closed for now

Circuit Judge Robert "Bill" Barr has issued a court order temporarily closing the courthouse in Elba.

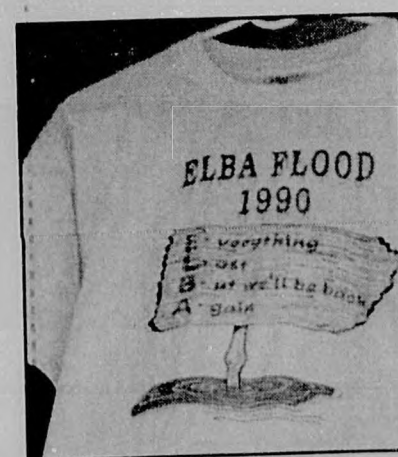
According to an announcement from Probate Judge Bill Gammit, all his office's services (car tags, titles and licenses) have been moved to the Enterprise office located in the old Post Office on Grubbs Street.

The judge said that anyone having recording business or who needs a copy of a deed or mortgage should go to the Farm Center in New Brockton.

All services previously available are now fully restored at the above locations. Judge Gammit and his staff hopes the inconvenience of the temporary locations will be as short as possible.

At the present time, Circuit Clerk Jim Ellis is conducting all transactions of his office in the Enterprise office also located in the old Post Office building.

Revenue Commissioner Ronnie Burns has moved his Elba office's operation to the Mapping & Appraisal Office in New Brockton adjacent to the County Complex and to his Enterprise office also located in the old Enterprise Post Office.



REMEMBER THIS? After the 1990 flood, Elba residents sported t-shirts which read, "Everything Lost But We'll Be Back Again." Saturday, this one was displayed downtown.

WE ARE OPEN!

Please bear with us as we clean up and repair our damages. When this is all over, we plan to be right here to serve you even better



Lawford's Ace Hardware

333 W. Davis St. • On the square
897-2300



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You're reading this one

REMEMBER

After a home or office has had flood damage, it must be retreated to continue termite protection

When settling with your flood insurance company, don't forget to include the cost of retreating your home or office for termites.



Bonded & Insured • \$500,000 termite warranty
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We've been here 60 years,
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ALL HOMES AVAILABLE TO AREA FLOOD VICTIMS

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Free frame, free delivery

4-drawer Chest \$48 **Lamps \$35**

Values to \$100

We accept Red Cross vouchers!
Mitchell Furniture

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BUSINESS LOCATION UPDATE

WE'RE BACK

in our office, which is located
at 416 Claxton Avenue

For assistance with your
insurance claims, come by or call

• 897-3431
• Beeper# 7190839

Ronnie Young, Agent
Southeast
Insurance Agency

RELOCATED!

ALFA INSURANCE

is temporarily located in front
of the former Windham Power Lifts
building on Hwy. 84 W.

For service call agents at home:

Gary Allen
897-2069



Jerry Kirkland
897-5452

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS

Our insurance office is temporarily located
in my home at 957 N. Troy Hwy.
in the rec room.

The adjusters are here to assist us
in processing the claims of our customers

MARSH INSURANCE CO.

- Stan Marsh -
Home: 897-5494; Office - 897-2981

Jared and Jared,

Attorneys at law

will be temporarily located

in the building with

Windham Lumber Co.

(the old Elba Elementary School)

while their offices

are being remodeled

897-3507

Ya'll come see us.

The EDSO staff is busy cleaning up
and regrouping from the flood waters.
However, we always have time for a
friend or a customer.

We are back in business
at our original location,
435 Reese Ave.

EDSCO is here to stay - a little wet
water can't scare us out!
Come see us.

EDSCO Fastners
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We are temporarily
located in former
Garden Gate Bldg.
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BRADLEY FLORIST

For all your floral needs. Call 897-3422

NOTICE

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will be temporarily located
in Dr. Kim Williams' former
location on Drayton Ave.,
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by Wednesday or Thursday
of This Week!

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Call us at 897-2407

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WE ARE OPEN!

And we're ready to help
our customers recover from
the 1998 flood.

**Windham
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Troy Hwy. - Elba - 897-6503

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location



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10% DISCOUNT
to all flood victims!!!
Carpet, vinyl, ceramic
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Robert and Evelyn Holliman at 897-5071



Mike Reeves, owner
184 Hwy. 231 North • Troy, AL
566-2996



CLEAN-UP UNDERWAY. Elba area residents have been busy in recent days attempting to clean out buildings damaged in the recent flood. Shown, clockwise from above, workers wash library furniture; damp books were piled by the road, to be hauled away with large equipment; below, and volunteers wash the floors of the First United Methodist Church educational building.



National Guard aided in rescue

by Michele Cox Gerlach

The Elba unit of the Army National Guard is trained for field artillery, but on Sunday, March 8th, members got a crash-course in floods.

"We had approximately 65 of our people here for our regular drill," David Pritchett said.

On the morning of the flood, several members of the unit had gone downtown to get two-way radios from City Hall. They ended up rescuing people.

"They asked us to go get a family out," Pritchett said. "As the water got deeper and deeper, more people got stranded."

Members of the National Guard rescued one 75-year-old woman who was stranded in her car and unable to open the door because of the pressure of the water, Pritchett said. With the city police department coordinating the effort, they also rescued a blind man from the downtown area, as well as several elderly residents.

Later in the week, members of the local guard unit assisted with traffic control and delivery. They were able to assist GTE with a generator needed to get the phone system up and running. They delivered a truck load of Clorox to Elba. And they assisted with traffic control and security.

Pritchett said someone was attempting to remove cash from a downtown business when their vehicle stalled. Before the waters receded, the Guard was asked to park one of their two-ton trucks in the area for security.

"It turns out, we were watching to make sure no one took the \$11,000 in the car," Pritchett said. "We stayed their until the marine police arrived and could guard the car by boat."

Pritchett, who worked with the Guard in Elba in 1990, and in hurricane clean-up, said he feels Elba is his second home. And he's mighty glad the Guard was on hand to help

on March 8th. "I didn't see the waters last time," he said. "But thank God we did have personnel here to help when they came this time."

In addition to the help supplied by the Elba unit of the National Guard, a military police unit based in Alexander City, Ala., also was sent

in to provide security. The local army also was used as headquarters for efforts by the Red Cross and Southern Baptist Association to provide hot meals for flood victims.

Tuesday, six members of the National Guard remained on duty in Elba.

FLOOD SALE Now in Progress

*Hurry In While
Quantities Last!*

**FIRST COME,
FIRST SERVE!!**

**CLARK
FURNITURE**

Utilities suffer severe damage

by Marvin Mollwain, editor

The different departments of the City of Elba are working to get things back in order.

Dennis Coleman, superintendent of the water department, stated that all the city's wells are back on line and the water is safe.

He said that the sewer system's lift stations and lagoon is 100 percent operational.

Billy Meeks, the superintendent of the street department, whose responsibility is to maintain the feeder system (sewer lines) reported the lines are 90 to 95 percent operational.

There was severe damage to sewer lines located on Cordelia Street, Putnam Street, Plant Avenue and in the Brookdale Subdivision. Repairs are currently underway.

Streets that are presently closed to traffic include Cordelia Street, Polka Street, and Caroline Street.

The bridge over the canal (Beaver Dam Creek) on Caroline Street received major damage and will be closed to traffic indefinitely.

Meeks stated that only time will tell how severe the damage to the city's street and sewers will be. There will have to be a drying out process and the settling of the earth before all the damage caused by the flood can be determined.

Larry Eddins, supervisor with the city's electrical department, reported that the electrical system is back up and operational.

Re-connects to residences and businesses are being made after they are properly inspected and certified as safe.

All problems with utilities and street/sewer problems should be reported to city hall located at the old Army Reserve Center (Recreation Center) or call 897-2333.

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Attorneys at Law**
are back in their offices downtown,
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to serve clients' needs.
For service, call 897-3413

ELBA

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extends goodwill to
The Elba Clipper and
the good people of
Elba.

The Eufaula Tribune
Eufaula, Alabama



**TEAMWORK DELIVERS
HOT MEALS.** Members of the Alabama Southern Baptist disaster relief team, shown above, spent their time in Elba cooking in the National Guard Armory. The Baptist cooks prepared the hot meals which were delivered by the American Red Cross vans, shown at right. The crew of cooks shown here traveled from Moulton and Lawrence County to provide disaster relief. Red Cross workers came from as far away as Wisconsin. The Salvation Army also delivered hot meals in the area.



Dishes should be sanitized

Dishes, pots and pans that have been covered by flood water should be carefully inspected, washed and disinfected before they are used again. First, inspect all items. Discard any items made of porous material, such as wood, plastic or rubber. Any dishes with deep cracks should be thrown away as well. These items can't be sanitized.

Wash the remaining items in hot detergent solution, using a brush, if necessary, to remove dirt. If handles from frying pans and saucepans are removable, clean them separately. Equipment that can be taken apart

should be cleaned in pieces. After rinsing and brushing, rinse in clear hot water. Then immerse in a chlorine solution to sanitize. Use a solution of two tablespoons of liquid household bleach to a gallon of water.

To sanitize metal items, boil them in water for at least two minutes. Let all items air-dry. Do not dry them with a dish towel.

Kitchen items made of iron probably will be rusted. Remove rust by scouring with steel wool. After scouring and sanitizing iron items season them before use to prevent

food from sticking to them. Lightly coat the cooking surfaces with cooking oil and place them in an oven at 250 degrees F for two or three hours. The oil will seal the pores of the metal so food will not stick easily.

If cupboards and food preparation surfaces were in contact with floodwater, clean and sanitize them before storing the clean dishes, pots and pans. Wash the surfaces with hot detergent solution, then sanitize them using a solution of two tablespoons of liquid household bleach to a gallon of water.



AABON
HOME HEALTH CARE SUPPLY, INC.
108 JAMES STREET - OZARK, AL 36360

To our patients being served by the Elba office:

Due to the recent flood AABON Home health Care Supply has been forced to temporarily relocate. We are currently working out of the Ozark and Andalusia offices. The same competent, caring staff remains to fulfill your needs on a 24 hours per day, 7 days a week basis.

Even as the flood waters in Elba rose, AABON Home Health Care Supply was busy taking care of the needs and concerns of patients. We will continue this dedicated service as we seek a more permanent location.

Please continue to call us at 897-3929 or 1-800-835-2266 for all your in-home equipment and respiratory care needs.

Sincerely:

Jesse R. Watson, Manager
Elba Office
AABON Home Health Care Supply

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For flood customers, we offer

- Guaranteed lowest prices in area • In-store credit • Extended terms to 24 months
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• With approved credit. Terms & prices do not apply to prior purchases. All items in limited quantity & subject to prior sale.

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• Queen/Full size headboard • Triple Dresser • Verticle
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Large Capacity
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• 4 Automatic cycles • 2 speeds • 3
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Your choice Eureka
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**NO DOWN
PAYMENT!***

Caution urged when disinfecting with bleach

Persons involved in flood cleanup are urged to take special precautions when using bleach as a disinfectant.

Bleach should not be mixed with other household cleaners, especially those containing ammonia, because an extremely deadly chlorine gas can form. We've learned of several cases in which people have been overcome by hazardous fumes. Accidents can happen when an area is first disinfected with bleach, and then other cleaners are used. It can be a dangerous situation.

If an area has been cleaned with

other products, make sure the area is thoroughly rinsed with uncontaminated water before bleach is used. Never mix bleach with other chemicals, cleaners or household products.

Do not use bleach in its concentrated form. A solution of 1/4 cup bleach per gallon of water for general disinfectant use is recommended.

For more information about cleaning areas that have been in contact with contaminated floodwater, contact our office at 894-5596 or your local extension office.



A BETTER DAY. Jerome Prewett fled from his home, located just inside the levee where it was broken by Beaver Dam Creek on March 8th, when he saw water coming over the top. "After I got out, I heard the dam break," Prewett said. "When the water started coming, it was coming fast." Prewett was among the many residents who didn't have time to remove his personal belongings from his home before it was flooded. He is shown above as he waited for his furniture to dry.

Kids need help after disaster

By Angela Huges
County Extension Agent

Children may require special attention after experiencing a disaster. Four common fears children have are death, darkness, animals and abandonment. In a disaster children may experience any or all of these. You should encourage them to talk about what they are feeling and to express this through play, drawing or painting.

A child's reaction to a disaster may vary depending on age, maturity and previous experience. In all cases it is important to acknowledge what happened and take time to talk with children about their fears.

Some behaviors you may find children exhibiting after a disaster include:

- Being upset at the loss of a favorite toy, blanket, teddy bear, etc.
- Hitting, throwing or kicking to

show their anger and frustration.

• Fear of the disaster coming again

• Fear of being left alone or sleeping alone. They may want to sleep with another person.

• Behaving as they did when they were younger, including wetting the bed, sucking their thumb, wanting to be held, etc.

• Exhibiting symptoms of illness such as nausea, fever, headache, not wanting to eat, etc.

• Becoming quiet and withdrawn

• Feeling that they caused the disaster in some way

• Feeling neglected by parents who are busy cleaning up or rebuilding

• Refusing to go to school or to be out of the parent's sight

Parents and other adults can help children come to terms with their feelings in several ways:

• Let children know you love them and they can count on you.

• Reassure them that they are not

responsible for what occurred.

• Talk with your children about your own feelings.

• Give simple, accurate answers to children's questions.

• Hold them. Close contact assures children you are there for them and will not abandon them.

• Let children grieve for a lost toy or blanket that was special to them. It will help them cope with their feelings.

• Provide play experiences to relieve stress.

• Repeat assurances and information as often as you need to; do not stop responding.

• Spend extra time putting children to bed at night.

• Listen to what children say. Repeat their words to clarify what they are feeling. If additional help is needed for adults or children, contact a community resource such as a counseling center, minister or mental health agency.

FOODS - Canned - Frozen - Dried

Fruits (qts.) - \$2.39 - \$2.96 - \$6.66

Vegetables (qts.) - \$1.28 - \$1.95 - \$1.99

Pickles & Relishes - \$1.45

Jellies, Jams & Preserves (pts.) - \$2.85

Meats (lbs.) - 0 - \$1.98 - \$6.96

Steaks (lbs.) - 0 - \$3.98

Food value estimates offered

Sandra Coffey, of Coffee County Extension System, issued a statement of estimated retail value of food preserved at home, when homeowners experience a loss as a result of floods, fires or hurricanes.

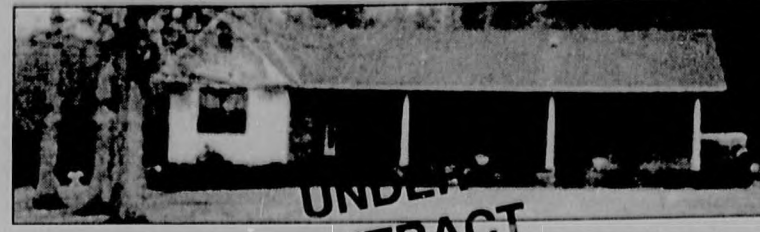
FOODS - Canned - Frozen - Dried
Fruits (qts.) - \$2.39 - \$2.96 - \$6.66
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Meats (lbs.) - 0 - \$1.98 - \$6.96
Steaks (lbs.) - 0 - \$3.98

Southeast Insurance & Real Estate

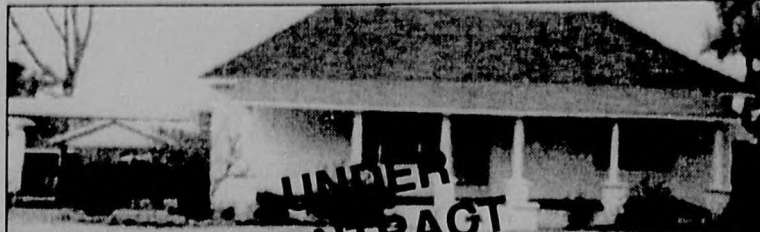
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SMITH AVE -- Very nice brick home w/Large Barn and 5 acres of Land MOL.



HWY. 166 WEST -- A lovely home with a touch of the city life -- Ranch Style 3-BR Brick Home, CH&A, 2 Baths, Large Family Room, 1.87 Acres MOL.



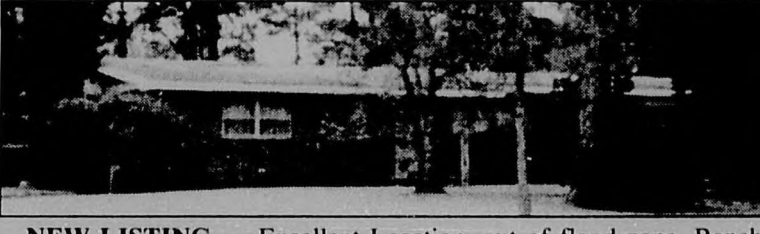
HWY. 87 NORTH -- A Special Home w/reminders of yesterday -- Large Family Room, 2-BR, Large Barn, 3 Acres MOL.



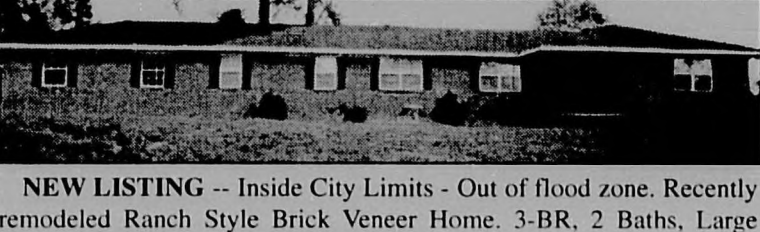
979 JOHNSON -- A lovely setting for this Ranch Style Home. 3-BR, 2-1/2 Baths, FP, CH&A, Formal Living & Dining Rooms - Lasting memories begin in a home just like this one.



RT. 4 BOX 397 -- Very Nice Home, a few miles from Elba - Ranch Style, Brick Veneer, 3 BR, 2 Baths, CH&A



NEW LISTING -- Excellent Location, out of flood zone. Ranch Style Brick Veneer, 3-BR, 1-1/2 Baths, Living Room, Dining Room, Eat-in Kitchen, CH&A. Come and see.



NEW LISTING -- Inside City Limits - Out of flood zone. Recently remodeled Ranch Style Brick Veneer Home. 3-BR, 2 Baths, Large Kitchen, Dining Room, CH&A. Will sell w/one, two three or as many as 52 acres. This one may not last long!



CURTIS COMMUNITY -- Kinston School District - Looking for a special home just outside Elba, on an acre MOL? Then you must see this home -- completely remodeled w/vinyl siding -- 3 BR, 2 Baths, Large Den & Dining Room. Priced to sell.



NEW CONSTRUCTION -- Give us a call to see what we can do for you on your special lot. We can help you begin your Dream Home. Call today!

NEW LISTING -- Enterprise - 415 East Lee St. 2-BR, 1-Bath, Large Den & Dining Room. Combo - Excellent starter home, empty nest, or investment property. Price - \$19,500.

NEW LISTING -- New Brockton - Main Street -- Excellent Starter Home or Investment Property. Block Home. Good roof - good location. Price \$15,000.

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Essie Phelps at The Plant Place invites you to stop by and see her. She has beautiful new Rose bushes, Bedding plants, Ferns, & a variety of Pot Plants 897-6935

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AMERICAN TAN Sonnenbraune Wolff system 24 lamp up to 44 lamp with facials or without. \$20.00 a month with approved credit. 1-800-239-4826. (R)

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12X65 - \$3,500 Del., setup and tied down. 2 BR, 1 bath, SOUTH-EASTERN FAMILY MANUFACTURING HOUSING 347-0105 or 888-439-0626. 2-19-tfc

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5% DOWN Cash or trade buys a new 14x70 3BR, 2BA, \$189.33 monthly. Includes statewide delivery and set-up. Apply by phone. 1-800-698-8782.

ATTENTION New/used mobile homes - 2, 3, 4 bedroom beginning at \$150 per month. Apply by phone. 1-800-482-1997.

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For more information, or appointment to see, CALL

Chris or Penny Cox (334) 826-0724 after 5 p.m.

TERMS: Cash, Approved Check or Current Bank Letter of Credit

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: BURTON AUCTION CO. P.O. BOX 5908 DOTHAN, ALABAMA 36302

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DENNIS BURTON, AL

576 (334) 692-3955

RONNIE D. VAUGHAN, AL # 565 (334) 897-6053

(NO LOADING AFTER DARK)

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COMPANY DRIVERS and owner operators, flatbed, home weekends. Competitive pay. Weekly settlements. Run South Mid. Midwest Trucking package. Buffalo Wood Trucking 1-800-452-8088.

DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED.

No experience necessary. Swift, Ozark, TSL, Werner Stevens and others now hiring. Good pay, equipment and benefits. **Call Greenville 1-800-340-9803 today**

DIRECTOR OF Social Services

Seeking highly motivated, committed MSW with work with "at-risk" children and adolescents, supervise BSW staff for statewide long-term residential child care organization. F/T. Minimum requirements MSW degree in social work and AL licensure. 2 years social service experience working with children and families preferred. Some travel required. Benefits include BC/BS PMD, TDA, life insurance, sick leave, vacation, company car. Send resume to: P.O. Box 24009, Montgomery, AL 36124-0009.

DRIVER Ameri/Truck/Seas Transport. Out 7-10 days. 80% drop-hook. New medical plan - dental, vision, prescription card. CDL Class A and tenures. HazMat required. New Refr. Division 1-800-456-1169 (R).

DRIVER - Earn up to \$800 per week your first year with USA Truck. Late model conventionals with satellite, no slip seating and weekly pay. 1-800-237-6462. EOE. M/F/H/V.

DRIVER - Now hiring teams and solos. New pay package. Check out over +20¢ per mile bonus, great benefits, lots of miles and much more. Talk to a National Recruiter 1-800-745-1145. Ameri/Truck. We're #1!

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DRIVER TRAINEES needed now. Swift Transportation. Earn \$50-\$700 weekly plus benefits. 15 day CDL training available. 1-800-642-7364 (R).

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DRIVERS - Earn \$645.00. No experience? No problem. CDL training provided - no contract required. Our Alabama terminals need trainees and experienced drivers/singles right now. 1-800-616-5055 (R).

DRIVERS - Homebased. Transportation now hiring flatbed drivers. Mileage pay plus pickup, drop, layover, turn. 401K. Min. 650 guaranteed miles, weekend loads. '95-'97 conv. tractors, spread axle tris, both air ride. OTR van drivers may cross train to flats. No students. 1-800-447-7798 (R).

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DRIVERS - Over the road and owner/operators needed. Decatur, AL. 30¢ per mile with bonuses. Benefits package, CDL-A. Call Peggy 1-800-844-2611.

DRIVERS - STOP settling! Con-Way Truckload Services offers a total compensation package second to none assigned conventionals, teams and solos, OTR runs and company paid insurance for the entire family. Ask about our new team opportunities. Call 1-800-555-CWTS. EOE.

DRIVERS WANTED! Bigbee Transportation needs OTR T/T drivers. Must be at least 21 and have CDL w/HazMat. Late-model equipment, mileage, drop, pick-up and layover pay, plus bonus. Insurance available. Call Tracey at 1-800-329-6267 or (601) 327-3141.

HELP WANTED

CITY OF ELBA Elba, Alabama

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT

Applications are being accepted for the following temporary positions in the Department of Parks and Recreation's "Summer Recreation Programs."

Seasonal Temporary Pool Manager
Lifeguard
Concessionaire
Equipment Operator
Recreation Aide
Bookkeeper
Umpire
Field Maintenance

These positions are located at the recreation parks and centers where summer recreation programs are held. The work schedule varies with night and weekend work required of some positions.

Applicants must apply at the Elba Recreation Department, 764 N. Claxton Ave. between hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Applicants must be at least 16 years of age and possess a valid Social Security Card. Applicants under the age of 18 must have a work permit. Applicants must meet the City of Elba's employment physical standards which include drug/alcohol testing. Evidence of previous experience and life saving certificates, where required, must be presented when applications are submitted. Driver's License required for park maintenance positions.

An Equal Opportunity Employer Male/Female/Disabled

INEXPERIENCED drivers. Alabama Drivers Academy offers lowest tuition of any private school. Financing to anyone and free programs. Truck driver training at its best. 1-888-703-7483 (R).

JOB OPENINGS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADS, 17-23 years old. No experience necessary. Will train in electronics, aviation, mechanics, and other fields. Must relocate. Excellent benefits. Free call. 1-888-255-6289, M-F, 8-6.

LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM Gas Inspector - applicants must have successfully completed high school / GED to qualify for this position. Qualifications include at least 3 years experience as an LP-gas service person, LP-gas fuel truck driver or inspector and employment, successfully complete police academy training. In addition, the candidate selected for this appointment will be required to live full time in North Jefferson County before permanently appointed to this position. Extensive travel and some overnight travel. Starting salary \$22K. To apply, call State Personnel at (334) 242-3389 and ask for an application for classification 61155, Option 411. We are an equal opportunity employer.

MERCHANDISER, perm, part-time. Experience in POG rests. Hourly pay, benefits. Good work habits, must be reliable. Call Serv. First 1-800-952-4738. Ext. 5070 or 4708.

OTR DRIVERS, Southeast and South Midwest hauls. Excellent benefit package, home office, 1 year experience, 23 years of age, Class A CDL. Call Beckly today for more information. 1-800-844-6458 (R).

STEVENS TRANSPORT - Dallas, TX hiring experienced and inexperienced drivers. New equipment and pay scale. Experienced call 1-800-333-8595, inexperienced 1-800-340-9803 (R).

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SPACE FOR RENT - FOR RENT - Jacksonville, AL. 614 South Pelham Road. 9000 square foot building between foot outlet and copy shop. \$2625 a month. Hubert Owen. (205) 546-7715 or 1-800-952-1166.

EXCELLENT PROFITS - Lot home wholesalers. Join proven 18 Kilo dry log styles starting \$12,190.00. Exclusive territory. Mr. Buck 1-800-321-5647. Old Timer Log Homes.

BECOME WEALTHY - Reduce taxes, pay less. 40-800% return on investment, unlimited income potential. Initial investment - \$1,250. 1-800-955-0796, x 9175, 24 hours.

WALKER Business Machines 22466 Andalusia 1-800-832-0600

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH HOUSE FOR SALE. LR, DR, Kit., Single Car Garage, Double Carport, Corner Lot, Fenced Back Yard, Storage Building Out Back. 774-7359. 3-19-2ip

HOME FOR SALE Beautiful brick home on 1 acre lot. 1900 sq. ft., 3 BR, 2 1/2 bath, many extras, 1527 Highland Drive. \$88,500. Call 897-6233. 2-26-tfc

LAND FOR SALE 1 - 3 Acres Homesites, various locations. **FLACK-HANNEY TIMBER CO.** 897-2928 4-24-tfc

FOR SALE **3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH** **HOUSE FOR SALE** LR, DR, Kit., Single Car Garage, Double Carport, Corner Lot, Fenced Back Yard, Storage Building Out Back. 774-7359. 3-19-2ip

ALABAMA HOME Equity - 1st and 2nd mortgage loans, bill consolidation, home improvement, refinancing. \$15,000 - \$166,000. \$20,000 - \$234,000; \$30,000 - \$351,000. Slow credit plan. Only 239-6824. Serious inquiries only.

ARE YOU drowning in debt. Debt relief - free, immediate, confidential. Consolidate payments, lower interest. Call 1-888-BILL-FREE or 1-888-245-5373. American Credit Counselors, non-profit. (R)

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PANAMA CITY Beach. Sandpiper-Beacon Beach Resort. \$59 starting/3/28. (1-2 persons). Beachfront. 3 pools (1 indoor), lazy river, hot tub. 1-800-488-8828. www.sandpiper-beacon.com.

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BUSINESS

HERSHEY, Distributors needed. 90K yearly potential. Great locations insured. \$7000 investment guaranteed. Call 24 hours: 1-800-824-3223.

LOCAL CANDY route. 30 vending machines. Earn ap. \$800/day. All for \$9,995. Call 1-800-998-VEND.

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MEDICARE recipients - are you using a Nebulizer Machine? Stop paying full price for Albuterol, Atrovent, etc. Solutions. Medicare will pay for them. We bill Medicare for you and ship directly to your door. Med-A-Save 1-800-538-9849 (R)

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TIME TRUCKING, INC. O.T.R. DRIVERS We are Now Hiring OTR Drivers - Full time or Part Time - 25 to 30 per mile loaded/empty (depending on work record & exp.) Late Model Conventional Tractors Blue Cross/Blue Shield Health Insurance 401K Retirement Program **CALL Andy Morris TODAY!** 1-800-239-4239 Ext. 232 / 242

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SPRING REGISTRATION Andalusia/Greenville March 23, 1998 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (All Students) Classes Begin March 24

LATE REGISTRATION Drop/Add Period March 24 - 26 Andalusia 222-6591/Greenville 382-2133 (ext. 3101)

LBW students seated left to right: Stacey Solomon, Opp; Kevin Allen, Zion Chapel; standing left to right: Alan Crenshaw, Opp; Darren Mooney, Andalusia; Juanita Cobb, Andalusia.

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RV'S

THE RV Super Show is back! Indoors at the Birmingham Civic Center, March 26th through March 29th. Save thousands on motor homes, travel trailers, 5th wheels, pop-ups and diesel pushers. Most every size, color and floor plan imaginable. Unbelievable discounts on pop-ups and trailers and bankers for this show only. Bring the family, win a prize and enjoy the entertainment. Your trade will never be worth more. It's the big show. The RV Super Show Indoors, March 26th-29th, Birmingham Civic Center. Come join the fun and save thousands. Hours 10-10, Sunday 12-6.

HEALTH/FITNESS **HOSPITAL INSURANCE** for individuals and small businesses, including truckers. Pay drug card, occupational coverage, air ambulance. Member of the Better Business Bureau. Excellent rates, 1-800-329-1948.

ESTATE OF FRED CARLTON FEE, SR. DECEASED PROBATE COURT Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 5th day of March, 1998, by the Hon. William O. Gammill, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA **ELBA DIVISION** **IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FLOESSIE B. BURK, DECEASED** **CASE NO. PC-98-04** **TO: MR. EDWIN BAKER AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:** Hereafter, on January 13, 1998, Charles Frederick Sessions filed in this court his petition for the probate of an instrument in writing purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Flossie B. Burk, deceased, which the petition is now pending in this court. The 14th day of April, 1998, having been set as a day for hearing said petition and the proof to be submitted in support of the same. Notice is hereby given to Edwin Baker and all other persons in interest, to be and appear in this court on said 14th day of April, 1998 at 9:00 o'clock A.M. at the Coffee County Courthouse in Elba, to contest said application if they think proper to do so.

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Buy-Out

Continued from Page 1
the levee," he said.
"Basically, we'll put all of this information into a plan and present it to the city."

The plan, Adcock said, will be written as a joint effort of local, state and federal EMA officials with the cooperation of the Corp. of Engineers.

Asked how long the process of writing the plan will take, Adcock said FEMA director James Lee Whit has committed to having a plan within 30 days.

"We'll provide the plan to the local EMA and the city," he said.

Bodies

Continued from Page 1
A portion of AL Hwy. 189, just North of Perry's Store, was closed to traffic for several hours until authorities could recover the victims' bodies.

Mrs. Cutts' body was recovered shortly after 2 p.m. since it was visible. After a dive team arrived from Houston County, Mr. Cutts' body was recovered at approximately 6:15 p.m.

Checks

Continued from Page 1
checks.

The Sutleys were awakened at 4 o'clock the morning of the flood. While they moved some of their personal belongings out of the home they were renting on Washington

Business

Continued from Page 1
• State Farm Insurance (both agents at Mike McGuire's office at 307 Adkinson)
• H & R Block (located in old Garden Gate Florist building)
• Family Dollar Store
• NAPA Auto Parts Store
• Quality Wood Works

• Magic Mirror
• Southeast Real Estate & Insurance
• Dorsey Trailers

Other businesses which are open that were not damaged by flood include:

• Fuller Brothers Grocery
• Medical Arts Pharmacy
• Pizza Hut

Funeral

Continued from Page 1
good can come out of a bad situation.

Ellison said his own parents were awakened at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 8, and alerted that waters were rising.

"What if nobody had called them," he said.

But for the grace of God, Ellison said, many others could also have drowned.

"Grace stepped in between you and between death," he said.

"If one person turns his life to God because of these victims, good has come of this," Ellison said.

The minister said he believes there is a message in the flood for the people of Elba.

"God is trying to give the people of Elba a warning," Ellison said. "God is concerned about you and where you will spend eternity."

"He's trying to make a believer out of you," Ellison said. "Let God make a good thing out of your life in this bad situation."

Schools

Continued from Page 1
mentary students were encouraged to talk about their experiences last week.

"The children are very resilient, and they're doing as well as could be expected," Mrs. Killingsworth said. "We're giving them all time to share and letting them write about their experiences. That's a good release for their anxiety."

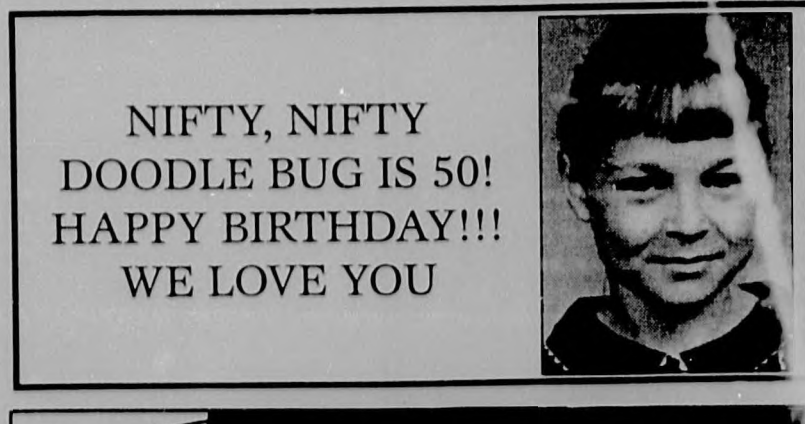
She said there are a few isolated cases in which children need specialized attention and that school counselors are meeting with those children. There also are children who have material needs, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is assisting in that area.

County schools

County education superintendent Roger Bowden said the county school calendar has not been adjusted to make up the three days county

students missed last week.

"We have a principal's meeting set for Thursday (today, Thursday, March 19)," he said. "We have one make-up day built in the calendar, but we won't know until after that meeting what we're going to do."



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Brantley Highway 2-story 3 BR - 2 baths 1 Ac +/- \$89,500 Large workshop.

Hwy. 125

2 AC, 1 Yr. Old - 3 BR - 2 Baths.
This is a beautiful home!



108 Taylor Avenue
3 BR - Office - 2 Bath Shop Bld.
Good location!
\$63,900

NEW CONSTRUCTION

35 Ac +/- - 2,236 sq. ft. 3 BR - 2 baths - study - garden tub - 2 large porches. **Beautiful view!**



Pine Level

- 4 AC +/- 4 BR - 2 baths - Gunite pool tack barn - Mobile Home hook-up
\$83,900.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

1 Ac +/- - 3 BR - 2 baths, metal roof - additional land available
\$54,900



Don't miss this!

Plenty of room - 3,279 sq. ft. 4 BR - 3 baths - 2 Central A/C units -
\$69,900



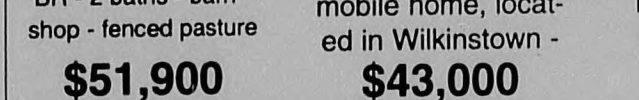
Mobile Home Hook-up on property.

5 Ac +/- fenced -
Renovated farm house 3 BR - 2 baths - barn shop - fenced pasture
\$51,900

15 Ac +/- 2 ponds
mobile home, located in Wilkinstown -
\$43,000

Bait Shop & Residence
Taylor Mill Road
\$125,000

Hwy 167 new construction
BR 2 baths 2.5 Ac - buy now & choose your colors. 1,735 sq. ft. + 872 sq. ft. porch -
\$115,000



2,500 sq. ft.

1 1/3 AC - 3 BR - 2 1/2 baths - 18X36 pool. Covered carport, double car shed & lawn equip. shed - inside city limits -
\$129,900



Wise's Mill

6 AC +/- - 1,877 sq. ft. - 3 BR - 2 baths
Central A/C - fenced back yard

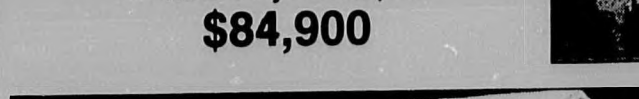


1,152 sq. ft.

Apartment and 44 X 35 shop area
Hwy. 87S -
\$66,500



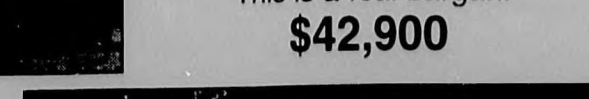
1313 Highland Drive
1,799 sq. ft. - 3 BR - 2 1/2 baths - freshly painted interior - new vinyl & carpet.
\$84,900



Intersection 239 & Hwy. 167
1.2 Ac +/- - 3 BR brick home.
This is a real bargain!
\$42,900



Handyman Special -
4 BR - 2 baths - 1 ac +/- -
Coffee County Rd. 410 -
\$35,000



930 Payne St.

3 BR - 2 baths Shop building -
\$44,900

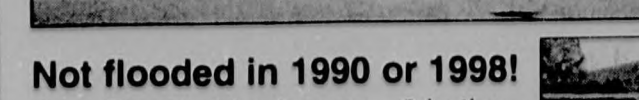


NEVER FLOODED!
2,200 sq. ft. - 3 BR - 2 bath - sun room beautiful lot
\$79,900

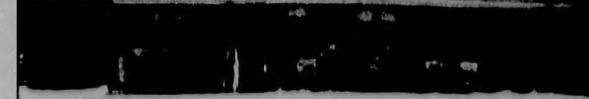


Sunset Blvd

2,027 Sq. Ft.
- 4 BR - 2 baths - storage bldg. patio - basement
\$79,500



Not flooded in 1990 or 1998!
Elm Steet - 4 bedrooms - 2 baths - central A/C - large lot
\$72,900



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MONTGOMERY AL 36130-0100

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visit with
pen pal



INSIDE

Clean-up
continues
in Elba



INSIDE

Donations
pour in



The Elba Clipper

Volume 101, Number 41

50 cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 26, 1998

1 Section, 14 Pages

Council hears details of FEMA options

by Ferrin Cox, publisher

The second council meeting opened Monday night with Mayor James Grimes reporting that the city has until January, 1999, to fully utilize the recent \$100,000 state DOT grant for repaving city streets.

The council adopted a Southeast Alabama Gas District resolution allowing the utility to continue offering competitive prices to industry following federal deregulation of utilities. Councilman John W.

Sharpless explained the resolution to council members.

Fredrick Hamilton, representing Southeast Alabama Planning and Development Commission, presented a resolution authorizing the mayor to set for the city on a grant proposal to relocate low income citizens. He said one public hearing

has been held (with no one attending) and another public hearing will be held on this if the grant is finally approved. The council approved the resolution.

Mayor Grimes announced that

Gov. Fob James was appointing a task force of local and state officials to oversee, and ensure the completion of, the proposed levee rebuilding work and needed a council member to serve with this group. Council member Wenzel Gray volunteered to serve and the council agreed.

The council then adjourned into a workshop mode to view a 25-minute video on various options available from the government to flood areas. It was presented by Federal Emergency Management

Agency (FEMA) representatives. Following the video, Ernest Hunter, FEMA representative from Atlanta, addressed questions from council members.

Hunter stressed any decision would be a local decision, there was not an unlimited pot of money (actually a small pot of money) but the local community would decide on how, and if, it is ultimately used. The same video will be shown at a community-wide meeting in the high school auditorium on Friday night at 6 p.m.

Hunter explained there were four options in the "Mitigation" normally offered by FEMA. They include:

- A buy-out in which the federal government would buy property.
- He explained there is limited money for this and it is competitive with all other communities in the 12 counties in the March 8th disaster.
- A "relocation" which would involve moving homes and businesses to higher ground.
- Elevation, which would involve

See COUNCIL, Page 14



Ernest Hunter

Teens charged with murders

by Marvin McIlwain, Editor

The two teenage suspected of murder in the deaths earlier this month of a Coffee County couple have been returned to Alabama from Sugarland, Texas, where they had been arrested on theft charges. Russell William Cutts, Jr. and Jeremy Guthrie, both 18, were charged with capital murder immediately after they were taken to the Enterprise Airport last Thursday afternoon.

Police in the Texas town had arrested the two on Sunday, March 15, after they were sighted driving the pickup truck belonging to Russell William Cutts, Sr. The vehicle had been reported stolen.

The bodies of Mr. Cutts and his wife, Leighanne Manning Cutts, were discovered Monday afternoon, March 15, after being reported missing under suspicious circumstances. They were last seen alive at approximately 8:20 p.m. Friday, March 13.

Autopsies revealed that couples had died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds.

Both suspects were taken to the Coffee County Jail in New Brockton.

An initial appearance before District Judge Steve Blair was held Friday morning for both suspects in the temporary courthouse in the old

Enterprise Post Office building. The two defendants were formally advised of the charges filed against them and had their rights explained to them.

Judge Blair also ordered that Cutts and Guthrie be held in the county jail without bond.

On Monday, a special grand jury was impaneled to hear the evidence that has been compiled against the two individuals and decide whether or not to indict them on capital murder charges.

After receiving the evidence and hearing testimony concerning the homicide, both Cutts and Guthrie were indicted for capital murder.

Both defendants were again formally arrested and taken before Circuit Judge Gary McAliley. Bond was again denied and they were returned to the Coffee County Jail.

Guthrie has retained attorney Alice Anderson to represent him. Cutts requested the court appoint counsel.

Judge McAliley appointed attorneys Daniel Carmichael and Debbie Jared to defend Cutts.

The court set formal arraignment for both defendants on Friday, March 27, 1998, at the Civic Center (location of temporary courtroom facility) in Enterprise, AL.

If the two defendants are convicted of capital murder, they could receive the death penalty or be sentenced to life in prison.

State delivers \$100,000 to county

by Marvin McIlwain, Editor

The Coffee County Commission met in regular session Monday evening at 6:30 which was its final "trial" meeting at night.

However, a motion by Commissioner Tom Grimley to continue the evening meetings on a regular basis passed by a 4-3 vote.

An amendment to Grimley's motion by Commission Chairman Robert Stephens to hold the 6:30 p.m. meeting on another three-month trial basis failed.

Until further notice, the second bi-monthly meeting of the commission will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month.

Monday's meeting began on a positive note when members of the county's state legislative delegation - Sen. Dwight Adams and Rep. Garrett Moore - presented the commission with a check for \$100,000.

The money was provided by the Alabama Department of Transportation to be used in the repair of roads and bridges in the county's road system.



COUNTY RECEIVES FUNDS. Members of the Coffee County Commission look on as Alabama State Senator Dwight Adams and State Representative Garrett Moore present a check for \$100,000.00 to Commission Chairman Robert Stephens. The funds are a grant from the Alabama DOT.

Speaking for both himself and Rep. Moore, Adams said, "We will continue to work on the needs of the county brought about by the recent flooding."

The senator also read a senate resolution commending Commissioner Robert Brooks on his appointment to the Alabama Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame.

Charles Webb, director of Coffee

County's Emergency Management Agency, gave the commissioners an update on the county's flood recovery efforts.

He reported that between 450 to 500 homes throughout the county received "minor to substantial damage," while 111 businesses received "slight to major damage."

Webb stated that these numbers were accurate to within plus or

minus 10 percent and that 90 percent of those receiving damage had been contacted.

The director told commissioners that community relations teams from FEMA are surveying the county to ensure everyone who had damage is contacted.

He said funds will be provided by

See COUNTY, Page 14

Elba students have big plans for break

by Michele Cox Gerlach

The countdown is on! Spring break is almost here and most students at Elba Elementary School say they have big plans for their week off.

"I'm going on a vacation," said fifth grader Evan Tew, "probably North Carolina or somewhere."

Evan said he plans to visit his grandmother in Charlotte, where there are fun things to do, including a neat roller coaster ride.

Alison Smith is planning a trip to visit Morgan Matthews in Mississippi from Wednesday until Saturday.

"They have two malls," she said, adding that she plans to spend time shopping.

Amber Moody will be pulling up stakes during spring break, when she and her family move to Cullman, Ala., where her dad has a new job.

"We have family up there," she added.

Bradley Bane plans a trip to the Montgomery Zoo with his sister. Also high on his list of priorities are sleeping late and playing baseball.

"My mother is going to the beach with my sister and some teen-agers to watch them," fifth grader Alex Benbow said. "Hopefully, I'm



Pope

Burks



Sullivan

Caldwell



Brunson

Corder

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